Leicester, July 27th 1854.

Dear Mr Quincy;

Yrs. of date & postmark 26th came to hand same eveg - would that Uncle Sam were always as prompt in carrying & delivering his mail-bags. - I am very sorry you are not to be at the Ex. Comtee meeting on Monday, as a variety of business - some relating to the "Standard", & the best means of extending its circulation - is to come up. I have another letter from O. Johnson, wherein he urges a trial of the ~~prop~~ plan of advertising the Standard, as being recommended to him by certain sagacious publishers of periodicals, &c. - He mentions also that Mr. Gay's child is better, though not wholly relieved. He expresses the opinion that the sickness, of itself, has given Gay a shock, mentally & physically, from which he will not recover for some time. -

Whether the letter, take it for all in all,

MS.A.9.2.28.17

would have any tendency to take our highly-respectable & greatly-respected editorial brethren in N.Y. out of that large company of the Unwise, referred to by you, or promote them to a higher place therein, I am in considerable doubt. I would send it to you, but for your expected absence next Monday, when I shall want it ~~by me~~ at the Comtee Meeting.

I fervently trust your ~~absence~~ visit to Newport will not involve an absence from Abington on Tuesday the 1st. I can assure you that you will be needed there, in the double capacity of Speaker & Presiding Officer — i.e. all that has been said to me of the organization was by Mr. Garrison, who expressed the desire that you would preside. Then I fear we shall not have our usual complement of Speakers, & your absence will be a detriment. And considering your non-attendance at Framingham

on the Fourth, how can we excuse you? But you haven't even hinted at not being on hand, and I am bound to conclude that you have made every arrangement, & taken every precaution, so as to be on the ground at Abington on Tuesday next.

As I was looking over last even's Transcript, I observed that the Scholars of the Boston Public Schools had taken up the idea, - wholly spontaneously, of course - of making presents to this, that, & the other teacher; - and that, in 3 several instances, they had selected, as a gift, a set of Daniel Webster's Works! I couldn't help suspecting that the spontaneity here was arranged beforehand, as you say! The reflection also came over me that those very ponderous & valuable volumes were not appreciated by the public as they ought to be, and went off the shelves of the bookstore heavily. Couldn't you make a use of the above fact for a Stand? Letter?

And while I am upon the subject of

literary authorship, - didn't you tell me that you did not write "Wensley"? Yet lo! it has been, again & again, attributed to you in the public prints, without any denial on your part! And several friends of mine - & yours, - are, I find, confidently reporting that you are the author of it. And it will go near to be believed, shortly, if something isn't done about it soon.

Very truly Yours

Lawr. Maynard

P.S. The most important thing of time, gets into a postscript. - I am very sorry you feel so about your journey to the West. Not that I am ready to dispute that there are sufficient grounds for the feeling about the epidemic; but because of the disappointment to our friends there. However I shall not say a word to urge you to go, in the circumstances. We must do the next best thing that we can for our Ohio friends, if you finally decide not to go. -